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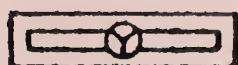


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THE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.  
OF RISHTON



# Annual Report



OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health  
AND  
Sanitary Inspector  
for the Year 1925

*Council Offices,  
Brook Street,  
Rishton, May, 1926.*

ALFRED E. ROBERTS,  
*Clerk.*



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THE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.  
OF RISHTON



# Annual Report

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*Clerk.*

WILLOW GRANGE,

RISHTON,

*May 1926*

## To the Members of the Rishton Urban District Council

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my 44th Annual Report upon the Health and Sanitary conditions of the District.

As intimated by the Ministry of Health the Report for 1925 is a Survey Report and deals with the measures of progress made in this district during the preceding five years in the improvement of the public health and also all conditions appertaining to Sanitary administration.

### **Natural and Social Conditions.**

Area 2986 Statute Acres.

Population (Census 1921) 7170, Estimated 1925, 7059.

### **Physical Features and General Character.**

The District is hilly with a ridge of stone Quarries situate in the northerly part of the district, the Urban area is compact. Rural farms are scattered the land being mostly pasture and part unsuitable for agricultural purposes.



Number of inhabited houses (Census 1921) 1752.

Number of separate occupiers (Census 1921) 1771

Rateable value £49,334.

Sum represented by a penny rate £194.

## **Social Conditions and chief occupation.**

The District is clean and healthy, the people are well housed, houses being mostly good middle class. Cotton Manufacturing is the staple trade, there is also an important Paper Mill and a Colliery.

## **Vital Statistics.**

### **Birth-rate.**

During 1925 98 Births were registered (40 males and 58 females) including 1 illegitimate male, the birthrate therefore equals 13·8 per 1000 of the population thus equaling the return for the year 1924.

The mean birth rate for the 10 years 1915-1924 was 15·1 so that our Birth Rate shows a decrease of 1·3.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales per 1000 total population was 18·3 for the year 1925, ours showing a decrease also upon this figure, of 4·5.

### **Death Rate**

During 1925 109 deaths were registered namely (58 Males and 51 Females) giving a Death Rate of 15·4 per 1000 this being an increase over the birth rate of 1·6. During 1924 the death rate equalled 14·5 per thousand, showing an increase therefore upon the previous year of 0·9 per 1000.

The death rate for England and Wales per 1000 from all causes for 1925 was 12·2 ours showing an increase upon this average of 3·2 per 1,000

### **Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis**

There were 5 deaths from this disease (2 males and 3 females) giving a death rate return of 0·70 per 1000. During the previous year the rate was 0·55 showing an increase of 0·15 for this year. The mean rate for the 10 years 1915-24 was 0·59. Therefore also an increase upon the average for the year of 0·11

There were no deaths returned as being from Tuberculosis other than pulmonary.

### **Infantile Mortality**

During the year 14 children died before reaching the age of 1 year (11 boys and 3 girls). It is well to mention that 6 or 42% of these deaths were as a result of malformation or premature birth.

The Infantile Mortality rate therefore was 142 per 1000 registered Births. During 1924 the rate was 60 therefore this years' returns show an increase of 82 per 1000 a very large increase indeed.

The average for the 10 years 1925-24 was 69 the increase for this year being 73 per 1000 upon this average.

There were no deaths returned as a consequence of Child-birth or sepsis against 1 in 1924.

## Causes of Death.

All causes.....	Male <b>58</b>	Female <b>51</b>	Totals <b>109</b>
Measles.....	2		2
Scarlet Fever .....	1		1
Influenza .....	1		1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .....	2	3	5
Cancer Malignant Disease .....	6	6	12
Rheumatic Fever .....	1	2	3
Diabetes .....	2	2	4
Cerebral Haemorrhage .....	1	4	5
Heart Disease .....	4	9	13
Arterio Sclerosis .....	4	1	5
Bronchitis .....	1	7	8
Pneumonia (all forms) .....	6	4	10
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .....	2		2
Diarrhoea, etc., under 2 years .....		1	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....	2		2
Congenital Debility and Malformation premature birth.....	6		6
Suicide .....	1	1	2
Other Deaths from Violence .....	1	1	2
Other Defined Diseases .....	13	9	22
Causes Unknown .....	1		1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year.....	11	3	14

## Vital Statistics—Summary.

	Total	Male	Female
Births in 1925 .....	98	40	58
Deaths in 1925.....	109	58	51

### Rates per 1000 of Population—

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Death rate from T.B. of Respiratory System	Rate of deaths under 1 yr to 1000 births
Mean of 10 years 1915-1924 .....	15·1	12·15	0·59	69·
1924 .....	13·8	14·5	0·55	60
1925.....	13·8	15·4	0·70	142
England and Wales .....	18·3	12·2	—	75

### Increase or Decrease in 1925 on

Ten years average .....	—1·3	+3·25	+0·11	+73
Previous Year .....	nil	+0·9	+0·15	+82
England and Wales .....	—4·5	+3·2	—	+67

## **General Provision of Health Services.**

### **Hospital Accommodation.**

We do not possess an Infectious Disease Hospital of our own but we have an arrangement by which the Blackburn Corporation Hospital take in our most serious cases when necessary at a cost of £3 3s. od. per week per case, 1 case was admitted during 1925.

We also have an arrangement with the Oswaldtwistle Urban District Council to take in any cases of Small Pox that may occur a retaining fee of £24 yearly being paid for this privilege. No Cases were admitted during 1925.

There is no Hospital accommodation in this district for Tuberculosis, Maternity, Children nor any other public institution.

### **Child Welfare.**

The County Council are responsible for the effective carrying out of this work, pre-natal and anti-natal visits are paid also children are examined in School by a competent Medical Officer and School Nurse.

### **Ambulance Facilities.**

We possess a Horse Ambulance for non-infectious and accident cases. We also have an arrangement with the Blackburn Corporation to provide a Motor Ambulance upon request at a cost of 1/- per mile.

### **Professional Nursing in the Home.**

There is one permanent Nurse employed by the Rishton District Nursing Association engaged upon this work.

We have no Nurse to visit cases of Infectious Diseases treated at Home.



## **Midwives.**

There are 3 midwives upon the County Council register but none of them receives any subsidy.

## **Sanitary Administration.**

The town's water supply is obtained from the Accrington District Gas and Water Board Co., the supply is good and constant being supplied directly to the houses where in use. The character of the water is medium being neither hard nor soft with no liability to plumbo solvent action.

There is no supply of town's water to the farms situate in the Northerly part of the district those farms being mostly dependent upon surface water for their supply. The farms concerned are mostly scattered over the rural areas and cost of laying mains and service piping is the prohibitive factor, but it is absolutely essential that so long as these farms are concerned in the production of the milk supply that the character of the water used should be above suspicion of contamination.

The water supply to each farm is being dealt with individually as regards piping and filtering and the best local source of available supply utilized as far as possible.

## **Sewage Disposal.**

Our method of treatment of Sewage is Bacteriological. The drainage of the district by drains and Sewers is upon the whole good.

The Bungalows erected in the Norden District are drained by means of a cesspool the outlet of which is far from satisfactory and is a possible source of nuisance.

Tottleworth Hamlet comprising 15 houses and one Farm is without an adequate Drainage System, this area also is without a Town's water supply, being dependent upon Spring Water for domestic use, and until a water system is installed in the houses in this area there can be no question of efficient drainage upon the water carriage system being carried out.

### **Excrement Disposal.**

The majority of the houses are upon the water carriage system i.e.—Fresh and waste water closets.

Fresh Water Closets 429. Waste Water Closets 1552.  
Privies 1. Pail Closets 26. Dry covered Ashpits 243.  
Movable Ashbins 1336.

During 1925 two Privies were converted to pails, also 10 waste water closets converted to fresh water closets, 37 waste water closets having been converted during the last five years.

There is no definite policy in hand at the present time for conversion to the fresh water system each case being dealt with individually upon its merits, as it arises.

### **Scavenging.**

Domestic refuse is collected by Motor Lorry weekly where portable ashbins are in use and monthly where covered ashpits are used.

Trade waste is collected bi-weekly from shops at a charge of 2d. per bin, such waste being conveyed to the Blackburn Destructor Works and there burnt at a cost to the Council of 3/6 per ton, the Council loses heavily upon this work, a duty which they are not compelled to do, but I am of the opinion that a saving could be affected if the Council would take into consideration the incineration of their own trade refuse and devise some means whereby this work could be carried out.

## **Factories and Workshops Act.**

We have within the District 28 Mills and Factories also 53 Workshops and Workplaces, frequent visits are paid to these with a view to their being kept in conformity with the Regulations.

### **Factories.**

The Sanitary Accommodation at 3 Factories was found unsuitable or defective 2 of which were remedied the remaining one being referred to H. M. Inspector of Factories to deal with.

### **Workshops and Workplaces.**

393 visits were paid to the above, 25 notices being served to remedy nuisances or defects.

### **Bakehouses.**

We have 19 retail Bakehouses comprising :—  
4 Factory Bakehouses, 14 Workshop Bakehouses, 1 Underground Workshop Bakehouse. 57 visits were paid to these premises the character of the work engaged in demands that these premises be kept in very good order.

### **Registered Workshops.**

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.

	Number
Bakehouses	19
Boot and Clog Makers	6
Dressmakers and Milliners	5
Motor Engineers	4
Tailors	4
Plumbers	3
Joiners	3
Firelight Manufacturers	2
Wheelwright	1
Other Workshops	6

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Total Number of Workshops on Register 53

**Factories.**

	Number
Cotton Mills	10
Paper Mill	1
Colliery	1
Brickworks	2
Iron Foundry	1
Mineral Water Manufacturer	1
Printers	2
Other factories	10
	<hr/>
Total Number of factories on Register	28

**Sanitary Administration.**

The following adoptive acts of Parliament are adopted in this District :—

The Infectious Disease Prevention Act 1890.	Adopted December 17th, 1890.
The Public Health (Amendment) Act 1890.	Adopted Nov'ber 21st, 1890.
The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Acts 1907.	Adopted Nov'ber 25th, 1912.
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Regulations.	Adopted August 19th, 1896.

The following Bye-laws are in force in the district :—

Relating to New Streets and Buildings.	Adopted April 29th 1884.
With respect to Cleansing of Footways Nuisances, Common Lodging Houses & Slaughterhouses.	Adopted June 13th 1884.
The Rishton Urban (Offensive Trades) Confirmation Order 1925.	Adopted April 13th 1925.



New Bye-laws for the district are pending, the following series have been accepted by the Ministry of Health and await confirmation.

Nuisances      Houses let in Lodgings.      Means of  
Escape in case of Fire.      Tents, Vans, Sheds.      Removal  
of Household Refuse.      Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-  
shops.      Offensive Trades.      Drainage of Existing  
Buildings.

### **Housing Accommodation.**

Housing accommodation and conditions are good, we have no houses actually unfit for human habitation. The houses at Tottleworth are old and about the worst within the district, some of them lacking through communication.

Should the Council carry out their building scheme the same necessity for inhabiting these houses at Tottleworth will not be apparent.

Isolated cases of overcrowding only have been met with, each case, being dealt with upon its merits.

Defects and nuisances found upon house to house inspection have been referred to owners and occupiers, in most instances informal action and notices have seemed to meet requirements in the remainder statutory notices have brought about the desired end, in no case had the Council to carry out work in default of the owner or occupier.

Seven New houses were erected during the year.

The main feature during the past two to three years has been the converting of the large open insanitary ashpit to that of the portable ashbin system and a weekly collection and also the demolition of the disused ashpits themselves.

Tottleworth Hamlet has been converted to the pail system and a weekly collection of household refuse, the Council themselves being responsible for this undertaking.

The destruction of household refuse by burning is advised this would eliminate the unsightliness which is at present very apparent to all who pass within the vicinity of the present tip at Norden Wood, from a hygienic and health standpoint the accrued benefits to be gained would be considerable.

## Housing Statistics for the year 1925.

Number of New Houses erected during the year.....	7
With State assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(1) By the Local Authority .....	0
(2) By other bodies or persons .....	7

## Unfit Dwellinghouses Inspection.

Total number of dwellings inspected under the Public Health or Housing Acts .....	1344
Number of Dwelling houses inspected under Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910 or the Consolidated Housing Regulations 1925 .....	59
Number of Dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for Human occupation.....	0
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	755

## Action under Statutory Powers.

### Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act 1925.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	5
Number rendered fit by Owners 5. By Local Authority 0	5
Number of closing orders .....	0
Number demolished 1. Voluntarily by Owner .....	1

### Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number of Dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....	88
Number of Dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice.....	87
By Owners 87. By Local Authority 0.....	87
Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.....	0

## Sanitary Inspections during 1925.

Number of premises visited .....	1344
Defects or Nuisances, No. discovered.....	755
" " " Abated .....	755
No. of Notices served, Informal .....	482
" " Statutory 24 re 93 premises.	
Legal Proceedings, nil, result nil. ....	—

## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

## Milk Supply.

Upon the whole the milk supply is good and adequate it being in most cases above the minimum standard required by legislation as regards genuineness and wholesomeness.

The Co-operative Society have a large trade, their pasteurized milk judging from frequent samples taken is well above the minimum in wholesomeness and cleanliness.

11 Farmers also producing milk within the district  
retail their own products to the inhabitants.

## Farms.

Improvements are in progress at certain farms within the district affecting Lighting Ventilation and Drainage. It is rather a handicap that the 31 Farms should come under the one ownership as progress must of necessity be slow.

It is impossible for farmers to produce pure raw milk in ill lighted and ill ventilated shippens, and if the wholesomeness and cleanliness of their product is their aim then some arrangement could surely be come to whereby they could eliminate pressing defects themselves and receive recompense from the owner concerned.



Co-operation must be affected between all concerned in the production, storing, handling and distribution of milk to ensure to the customers what they are entitled to expect, that is a pure raw milk produced under the best available conditions.

I regret that no Farmers within this district have applied to sell Grade "A" milk. Surely the seal of cleanliness and efficiency is well worth aiming for and would bring its own reward.

There are 31 Registered Cowkeepers within the district and also 19 Retail Purveyors of Milk upon the Register.

There were four samples of milk submitted during 1925 for Bacteriological examination, the result in each case being Tubercle Bacilli not found.

### **Meat Inspection.**

We have 3 licensed Slaughterhouses, 2 of which are in daily use, visits to these when possible are made daily and carcasses, plucks and offal inspected.

Carcasses, mostly pigs destined for outside areas are stamped with the approved official stamp advised by the Ministry of Health after inspection has been carried out.

One vehicle only retails meat belonging to the Co-op. Society and this complies with the Meat Regulations in force.

During 1925 the following were condemned or surrendered and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption :—

Tuberculous Carcase & parts : 1 Carcase & parts...	857 lbs.
Diseased, unsound or unwholesome meat : 5 Carcases and parts.....	668½ lbs

Total 1525½ lbs.

Other Foodstuffs, 22 tins ; 22½ lbs

There was no necessity for legal proceedings, nor were there any cases of Food Poisoning.



## **Sale of Food and Drugs Act.**

Four Samples were submitted for Analysis :—

- 1 Butter and 1 Coffee proving genuine.
- 2 Milk proving to be adulterated.

Nine samples of milk were examined in the department for gross dirt, etc.

## **Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 to 1917.**

One Sample of Cream was submitted for analysis which proved to contain preservative.

Frequent visits were paid to shops where food is prepared for sale or sold, with a view to food being prepared or stored under the best available conditions.

## **Infectious Diseases.**

There has been a very decided gradual decrease in the number of cases of zymotic infectious diseases notified during the period 1920 to 1925, the number reported this year is practically down to the minimum which in itself is a very noteworthy feature.

Number of cases notified during 1925 :—

Small Pox 0, Scarlet Fever 3, Diphtheria 2, Enteric Fever 0, Puerperal Fever 0, Erysipelas 4, Total 9.

A supply of Diphtheria Anti-toxin is stored at the office of the Medical Officer of Health.

We have an arrangement with the Blackburn Corporation to supply Swabs and to examine Bacteriological Specimens submitted at a cost of 2/6 per specimen.

The following specimens were examined :—

Blood 3, Sputum 12, Throat Swabs 2, Total 17.

A mild epidemic of Measles and Chicken Pox occurred during March and April 1925 being manifest mostly in children under the official school age yet attending school, these two diseases as a consequence were made permanently notifiable locally.

### Disinfection.

During 1925 Twenty four houses comprising 91 rooms were fumigated or sprayed with Formaldehyde also 5 beds and 6 sets of bedding and clothing disinfected by steam following cases of infectious diseases.

### Infectious Diseases Notified During 1921-25

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Chicken Pox					33
Measles					113
					146
Continued Fever	3				
Diphtheria	11	9	7	6	2
Enteric Fever	2			1	
Encephalitis Lethargica				7	4
Erysipelas	11	11	7		1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1			
Paratyphoid		1			
Pneumonia (All forms)	10	52	33	33	26
Scarlet Fever	11	30	13	4	3
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	3	2	4	7	4
Tuberculosis Other forms	2	1	3	6	2
	55	107	67	64	42

A Table giving the number of infectious diseases notified during the year, also the ages at which cases occurred is given below :—

Total Cases Notified														Deaths in Hosp.	
Notifiable Diseases	Total cases at all ages	Years										Re- moved to Hosp.			
		Under 1	1 2	2 3	3 4	4 5	5 10	10 15	15 20	20 35	35 45		45 65		65 and over
Scarlet Fever	3					1		1		1					
Diphtheria	2					1			1						
Pneumonia all forms	26	1			2	2	4	1	1	4	3	6	2		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1													
Erysipelas	4									1	1	2			
Pulmon. Tuberculosis	4								1	1	1	1		2	
Other forms T.B.	2									2				1	
Chicken Pox	38		2	4	2	7	14	4							
Measles	113	8	5	18	28	26	25	2				1			
Totals	188	10	7	22	32	37	43	8	3	9	5	10	2	3	

## Tuberculosis

4 new cases of Pulmonary T.B. and 2 Non Pulmonary were notified during the year, 5 Pulmonary T.B. deaths were recorded leaving a total of 35 cases upon the register.

The ages at which new cases occurred or deaths were notified is given below :—

### TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during 1925.

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		NonPulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
15—20		1				1		
20—25						1		
25—35	1		2		1			
35—45		1			1	1		
45—55	1							
55 upwards								
	2	2	2	0	2	3	0	0
	4		2		5		0	

## Foot and Mouth Disease.

This very contagious and infectious disease invaded our district during the latter part of 1925, 4 farms and 1 piggery being affected, as a result of this invasion 120 carcasses were burnt and 60 salvaged.

It would appear that the steps taken to eradicate this disease from amongst our herds are drastic, but such steps taken are to be preferred to letting the disease run riot throughout the Country and having to allow for its treatment in the yearly estimates.



## **Improvements.**

Conversions from the large insanitary open ashpit system to that of the portable bin and a weekly collection has been a notable feature of the last two years. Steam disinfection of infected articles by the Council themselves is also an improvement and tends towards higher efficiency in our public health services.

There is a gradual improvement going on in certain farms within the district these improvements are bound to have a beneficial effect upon our milk supply.

## **Requirements.**

Bathing Facilities. We have approximately 1800 houses within the district but only 350 of them are supplied with baths. Those who mostly need them are without.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

JOHN BARR, M.B. J.P.

Medical Officer of Health.

# REPORT OF THE Sanitary Inspector

*For the Year ending December 31st, 1925.*

Sanitary Department,  
Council Offices,  
Brook Street,  
Rishton.  
May 10th, 1926.

To the Members of the  
Rishton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my report for the year ended December 31st 1925.

## **Complaints.**

The number of complaints of nuisance dealt with was 124 made by the public through the Sanitary department, each complaint received was investigated and action taken where necessary to remove cause for complaint.

## **Infectious Diseases.**

During the year there were 182 cases of Infectious Diseases notified namely :—

Scarlet Fever 3.	Diphtheria 2.	Erysipelas 4.
Pneumonia 26.	Opthalmia Neonatorum 1.	
Chicken Pox 33.	Measles 113.	Total 182.

Each of these cases were visited and the sanitary condition of the premises investigated, in addition School Masters were informed of cases as they have occurred affecting school children and those in contact.

## **Tuberculosis.**

There were 4 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 cases of Tuberculosis other than Pulmonary also notified making a total of 35 cases at present known to be suffering from this disease in the district upon the register, 3 of the newly notified cases were removed to hospital for treatment.

## **Disinfection of Premises.**

There were 24 dwelling houses disinfected comprising 91 rooms, and 5 beds, also 6 sets of bedding and clothing disinfected by steam by the Council, in addition 9 infected beds were destroyed. There was 1 dwelling house together with bed disinfected for vermin.

## **Water Supply.**

The water supply for the Town is good as regards quality and quantity but the supply to the farms in the Northerly part of the district is still very unsatisfactory.

There were 8 samples of water taken for Bacteriological Examination, 5 of these being severely contaminated with "B Coli Communis."

The Spring supplying Tottleworth Hamlet with water for domestic purposes was upon analysis proved to be seriously polluted, immediate steps were taken and as a consequence the well was cleansed and permanently sealed as also was the source of supply to Holt Farm, the quality of the water has greatly improved since this work was carried out. It was twice reported during the year that this area ought certainly to be supplied with Town's water.

The water supply to Lower Cunliffe Farm also came in for much consideration as a result of which, steps are being taken to utilize the best source of available supply by piping and filtering to this Farm.

## **Drainage Work.**

The drainage systems in connection with new premises are hydraulically tested before being allowed to be filled in, 7 systems being thus dealt with, in addition the drainage system of two houses were subjected to the smoke test, street gullies are emptied weekly and deodorized, also drains tested and flushed when necessary.

## **Closet Accommodation.**

1552 houses within the district are supplied with waste water closets the drawback being to these that the large shafts are never sufficiently cleansed and in most instances never cleansed at all, where the use of water is scanty by the tenant there is not an adequate flush with the result that the system becomes choked and out of order. Children too, seem to have a universal inclination for making these shafts a dumping ground where ever accessible. The Council have the power to initiate a scheme of wholesale conversion to the fresh water system by arrangement when the time is considered opportune.

There are 429 fresh water closets in use within the district also 26 pails and 1 privy, the number of covered ashpits existing is 243 and the number of movable ashbins for refuse 1336.

During the year 2 Privies have been converted to pails also 10 waste water closets to fresh water closets.

## **REFUSE—Scavenging.**

Domestic refuse from dwelling houses is collected weekly where ashbins are in use and monthly where covered ashpits are used. The work of converting the insanitary open ashpit to the portable ashbin system is practically complete some few are still outstanding but these are under notice to convert.



The open ashpits having been dealt with the way is now clear for the superseding of the covered ashpit also, for that of the portable bin and a weekly collection. The covered ashpits comply with the existing regulations so that conversion cannot be by compulsion but arrangement or a local bye-law no doubt would meet the case.

There is everything to be gained by the portable bin and a weekly collection, should these ashpits be converted it will greatly facilitate the work of refuse removal, also I would add do away with the complaints received as to the dissemination of dust when ashpits are being emptied particularly in adverse weather.

### **Smoke Nuisance.**

There were 8 observations taken of Factory Chimneys for the emission of black smoke so as to be a nuisance under the P.H. Act 1875, 3 verbal warnings were issued, mechanical stokers were in use at the factories concerned.

### **Offensive Trades.**

During the year the following local order has been put into operation :—The Rishton Urban (Offensive Trades) Confirmation Order 1925, as a result of which Rag and Bone dealers have been classed as an offensive trade.

We have 5 premises used for offensive trades upon the register, i.e.—1 Gut Scraper and 4 Rag and Bone dealers, 45 visits were paid to these premises with a view to their being kept under close supervision and as free from nuisance as possible.

### **Factories and Workshops.**

There are 81 registered Factories and Workshops including workplaces and bake houses in the district, 393 visits being paid to these premises.

The Sanitary accommodation was found to be defective at 3 factories, 2 of which were remedied, the other being referred to H.M. Inspector of Factories to deal with.

The following notices were served to remedy nuisances or defects :—

			Found	Remedied
Cleanliness	...	...	2	2
Other Nuisances	...	...	20	20
San. Accom. defective	...	...	3	2
			25	24

### **Schools.**

The Sanitary conveniences at one school are in need of conversion to the fresh water system.

### **Housing.**

There were 1344 dwelling houses inspected for nuisance or defects, and 848 re-visited after serving of notices.

### **Consolidation Housing Regulations and Housing Inspection or District Regulations 1926.**

There were 59 dwelling houses inspected under the above Regulations.

### **Informal Notices.**

There were 755 dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of informal notices being served.

### **Action under Legal Powers.**

Section 28, Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919.

There were 5 dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of service of legal notice under the above Act.

### **Public Health and Amendment Acts.**

There were 87 dwelling houses rendered fit after service of formal notice under the above Acts,

One house has been voluntarily demolished by the owner.

### **Milk Supply.**

We have 31 Cowkeepers within the district upon the Register, 77 visits were paid to their farms and every opportunity taken to impress upon them the necessity for cleanliness of animals and shippens alike. There has been a gradual improvement regarding structural requirements in certain farms affecting lighting, ventilation, drainage and water supply.

62 formal notices were served upon Cowkeepers with reference to cleansing and limewashing being carried out, these were complied with.

We have also 19 registered retail purveyors of milk to whose premises 66 visits were paid under the various Milk and Dairies Orders in force.

4 samples of milk were obtained for Bacteriological examination, no Tubercle Bacilli being found in any one sample.

## Slaughterhouses.

We have three private licensed slaughterhouses within the district, 2 of which are in constant use each being kept in a clean and good condition. Carcases destined for outside areas are stamped with an official stamp after inspection has been carried out.

223 visits were paid to these slaughterhouses and the following carcases examined :—

Bovine 96, Sheep and Lambs 554, Pigs 409, Total 1059.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

As a result of inspections the following amount of food has been condemned or surrendered as unfit for human consumption and destroyed, carcases being taken to Blackburn for destruction by burning.

Tuberculosis, 1 carcase and parts.....	857 lbs.	
Diseased, unsound or unwholesome, other than above, 5 carcases and parts.....	668½ lbs.	1525½ lbs.
Other Food Stuffs, 22 tins.....	22½ lbs.	22½ lbs.
		<hr/> 1548 lbs.

59 visits to food shops, mostly butchers were also paid. There was no necessity for legal proceedings.

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

4 samples were submitted for analysis, 1 Butter and 1 Coffee (informal) proving genuine, 2 Milks (formal) proved to be adulterated, the adulteration were as follows :—

1. Deficient in fats and solids and containing added water.
2. Deficient in solids and containing added water.



Both farmer and seller appeared before the Committee to give explanation, that of the seller being accepted and the farmer cautioned and ordered to pay cost of the analysts fees.

### **Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 to 1917.**

1 Sample of Cream was obtained from a travelling retailer within the district who resided outside this area, the sample proved to contain preservatives above the minimum standard allowed by legislation. The seller appeared before the Committee and was cautioned as to labelling of Receptacle, and also as to the amount of Preservative used.

9 samples of milk were obtained from local farmers and examined in the department for gross dirt, etc., results being as follows :—

Clean, 2 ; Fairly Clean, 5 ; Grossly Dirty, 2.

Farmers concerned were communicated with.

### **Refuse Collection.**

Domestic Refuse is collected weekly or monthly according to the method of Storage, all such refuse being tipped at the Council's Tip at Norden.

Our method of removal is by motor lorry a 30 cwt. Vulcan being used.

The Tip being situate within an area of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the furthest collecting point I think it safe to assume that the horse was superseded by the motor without full enquiry as to its potentialities when costs are considered, but, in my opinion the motor is to be preferred, provided quick loading and rapid removal are obtained so as to reach the minimum in costs. Tipping is far from being an ideal method of disposal, its only asset being cheapness and even that cannot be retained should an epidemic disease arise through its presence.

Cremation (where not prohibitive) in a properly constructed destructor is the best hygienic system of disposal where with utilization of parts and a use found for the steam generated the initial outlay is the largest.

The rat holes contained within the tip were treated during the year with Calcium Cyanide under pressure with a view to eliminating some of the rodent pests contained therein.

### Trade Waste.

Trade Waste from business premises is collected twice weekly and conveyed to the Blackburn Corporation Destructor for destruction by burning. A charge of 2d. per receptacle is made for removal and disposal which does not cover the cost of the undertaking.

The following figures give some idea of the amount of refuse dealt with during the period 1922-25 :—

	Emptied		Loads		Emptied		Trade Refuse	
	Ashpits	Ashbins	H. & C,	Motor	Cess.	Pails	Loads	Motor
1925	1444	54,527	14	1318	....	1305	104	99
1924	2436	38,850	117	1825	36	1240	98	97
1923	2750	7,589	834	1305	49	1197	100	93
1922	2913	6,065	715	1443	49	1297	119	87

### Petroleum Acts 1871 and 1879.

The following licenses have been granted or renewed during the year :—

New Licenses issued, Petroleum, 4 ; Renewals, Petroleum, 6 ; Renewals Carbide of Calcium, 3 ; Total, 13.

### Rainfall.

The total Rainfall for the period 1921-25 is given below :—

1921, 40.80	1923, 59.06	1925, 40.01
1922, 42.07	1924, 42.08	

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours respectfully,

E. THOMPSON. A.R.S.I  
Sanitary Inspector.



